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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Sovietization of the Polish Army

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SUPP. TO  
REPORT NO.

1. Marshal Konstanty Rokossovsky has now reached the final stage in his effort to destroy entirely the national character of the Polish Army. Since the end of Nov 1953, all high commands in the three armies of Poland have been entrusted either to Soviet officers or to Poles who have lived in the USSR and have been trained in the Soviet military schools. The second category are, in any event, practically regarded as Soviet citizens. Generals Zubkov and Barinov, who command the Polish armored forces, may be regarded as Sovietized Poles. Their armored command consists of seven divisions.
2. Poland's four motorized divisions are under the command of the Soviet General Kosikov. The air force is commanded by another Soviet officer, General Turkiel. G-2 is under a Ukrainian general named Rusinski.
3. The Polish Generals Koresye and Siwicki (respectively chief and deputy chief of the General Staff) are maintained only as window dressing. They are completely topped by Rokossovsky, who assumes for himself the right to make all nominations to positions, all promotions, and all changes of station. The Polish General Malinowski, in charge of liaison and communication, comes directly under the authority of Marshal Vyrubov, a Soviet officer, to whom he is subordinate.
4. General Naszykovski, formerly in the International Brigades in Spain, who has since become a Soviet citizen, directs the Higher School of War, where knowledge of the Russian language is required before becoming a second lieutenant.

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5. Admiral Cherokov, another Soviet officer, is in command of the Polish fleet, such as it is, in the Baltic. Future officers of the Polish Navy are required to spend a period of study at the Soviet naval school at Nikolayev, on the Black Sea. The Soviets have the right of permanent oversight on the fifteen brigades of WOP (Military Frontier Police) and the eighteen brigades of KBW (Interior Security Police).
6. With the exception of seven armored divisions and four motorized divisions, the great mass of the Polish Army (20 infantry divisions) is rather short both of materiel and of transport. It still uses animal drawn transport. In its present state, Polish infantry could not be used in time of war except as security troops in the zone of communications, or as a reserve to fill in gaps smashed through the enemy line by armored units engaged in a break-through.

**LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES**

Rokossowski  
General

1. The Polish Army is a large force, but it is not a modern one. It is still largely composed of infantry and cavalry units. The armor is old and the equipment is outdated. The training is poor and the morale is low. The Polish Army is a relic of the past and it is not capable of fighting a modern war.

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